



**United States
Department of
Agriculture**

August 3, 2009

**Marketing and
Regulatory
Programs**

**Animal and
Plant Health
Inspection
Service**

**Plant Protection
and Quarantine**

**Hawaii State
Office**

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TO: COMPLIANCE HOLDER

A situation has arisen with the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) regarding CDFA's continuing interception of pests in fresh agricultural products shipped from Hawaii. Failure to mitigate this situation may jeopardize agricultural shipments from Hawaii to the U.S. mainland.

Effective immediately, USDA-APHIS-PPQ will initiate the following steps to mitigate this serious situation.

1. APHIS-PPQ will contact compliance agreement holders listed on CDFA's weekly "A/Q Rated Pest Interception Report".
2. Limited permit stamp(s) will be temporarily revoked until an investigation of the compliance holder's facility, including cleaning practices, has been completed.
3. While the investigation is in progress, the compliance holder will be allowed to ship product by presenting shipments at the respective APHIS-PPQ office for inspection.
4. APHIS-PPQ will limit shipped commodities to low risk plant material as deemed appropriate by the respective APHIS-PPQ office during the investigation.
5. Shipments found by APHIS-PPQ infested with pests will be placed on hold until pest identification is confirmed by APHIS-PPQ Identifiers as not federally actionable.
6. Following the results of the investigation, APHIS-PPQ will determine whether to reinstate the limited permit stamp to the compliance holder.

Questions should be directed to the respective APHIS-PPQ work unit.

Honolulu 808-838-2700
Lihue 808-245-2977
Hilo 808-933-6930
Kona 808-326-1252
Kahului 808-877-8757

Thank you for your cooperation.

Vernon Harrington
State Plant Health Director, Hawaii
Western Region, PPQ

cc:
PDs



Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Safeguarding American Agriculture
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Federal Relay Service (Voice/TTY/ASCII/Spanish)
1-800-877-8339